

so critical to the security of our country, the health of our country, the economy of our country, and the jobs that would be created. Of course, in terms of environmental protection, it is common sense. There are huge gains to be made with respect to efficiency. Efficiency, in fact, is the largest place available to grab CO₂ out of the atmosphere, which is the biggest problem with global warming, global climate change. So there is an enormous agenda here. In fact, this administration isn't even in the game. It is sad when you measure it against the demands of the country.

So I appreciate what the Senator has said. This is something that has to become a priority over the course of the next days here, and we are going to do everything in our power to help make it so.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL TSONGAS

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, 10 years ago today, this country lost a leader and this Chamber lost a colleague, and Massachusetts lost a favorite son. Ten years ago today, cancer took Paul Tsongas from us prematurely at 55 years of age. He left three wonderful daughters: Ashley, Katina, and Molly, and his special and extraordinary wife Niki, and he left an enormous number of friends and people whom he touched and affected across the country, those who joined him to help reform our politics.

Paul was a very different kind of public person. He walked his own path. He walked to his own tune. Today we remember him and we join the people in Merrimack Valley and across Massachusetts and so many others who came to appreciate and respect him and learned a lot about him through his Presidential campaign. We honor a life that elevated those whom he knew, and the countless people he never met, but whose lives he affected through the things he fought for and believed in.

Paul Tsongas inspired with his optimism and his drive, his disarming humor, and his love of causes both distant and local. He was proud of his Greek heritage, proud of his roots as the son of a drycleaner, proud of Lowell, and he became a champion of environmental protection and expanding opportunity so the full measure of the American dream that he came to see as a young person himself was accessible to everybody else.

He set a high standard for public service which he continued even after he left the Senate. He continued out of office to work across the aisle proving, with former Senator Warren Rudman and their Concord Coalition, that balancing the budget was not a partisan agenda item and that fiscal discipline could, in fact, invigorate and not stifle the American economy. Paul Tsongas was a Democratic deficit hawk before it was popular and, I might add, together with Senator Gary Hart, was part of that new vanguard that helped

to define the defense issues of our Nation in a modern context.

He understood also that being a Democrat did not mean being antibusiness. In Lowell, Paul served as a city councillor and then later as a reformed county commissioner. He loved Lowell. He loved that old mill town where he was born. Even at the end of his life, he knew every single person there, from Main Street through the largest businesses, and he could still see where he had grown up from the house where he lived in his last days.

Paul came to Washington, where he worked with Tip O'Neill, Joe Moakley, Republican Sil Conte, and Ed Brooke in a bipartisan, golden age for the Massachusetts delegation. Paul's love of ideas and his love of Lowell helped trigger one of the earliest sparks of high-tech innovation in Massachusetts. Through his championing of early computer companies such as Wang and others, he helped to fuel the whole era of such stunning ingenuity that it changed the face of America and enhanced our technological leadership in the world. Paul helped Lowell reinvent itself after years of decline, and in 1978, he was elected to the Senate. After one term only in the Senate, he gave up his seat in order to be with his family and fight cancer. He was sustained by the loving support of his sister, his wife, and his daughters, whom he treasured. Paul at age 7, had lost his own mother to tuberculosis, so this idea of being with family during that kind of crucial time was particularly poignant to him.

As a friend of Paul's famously told him: No man ever died wishing he had spent more time with his business. Paul was first diagnosed with cancer in 1983 and he fought it courageously from that day forward. Right to the end of his life, he was tenacious in his support for the causes he believed in, in his fight against the devastating disease that eventually took him but never stole his spirit. Instead, he brought to the fight the same optimism and determination that made him so successful in the Peace Corps. In 1992, when in remission, Paul ran for the Presidency, and he ran one of the most bracingly honest and politically courageous Presidential campaigns of our time. His was a campaign defined by common sense and by that wry sense of humor more than it was defined by fiery oratory. He managed to win Democratic primaries in New Hampshire and three other primaries and four State caucuses before the man from Lowell finally ceded the nomination to the man from Hope.

Paul reached across the country to the distant shores of the Pacific as co-author of the Alaska Lands Act, which protected millions of acres of pristine wilderness. He made an admirable contribution to our environment. His aggressive policies to protect our natural resources were truly an investment in our future. He made life-long friends in Ethiopia as a result of his Peace Corps service in the early 1960s, proving even as a young man that his sense of the

world reached beyond the horizon and to cultures far from his roots.

Today, in Lowell, the name Tsongas graces a museum of industrial history, part of the National Park Service, where the full story, both good and bad, of the industrial revolution and the textile industry in Massachusetts is presented for thousands of visitors, young and old, every year. Today, the name Tsongas graces an arena where athletic excellence, a passion dear to Paul's heart, is practiced along with political conventions and trade shows.

So I rise today not only as the Senator who inherited his seat; I rise as an admirer and a friend. To know Paul Tsongas was to see up close what this business we work in means in people's lives, and the full arch of his time on Earth illuminates the larger impact each of us can have on our communities, on our State, and on our Nation.

That is why this day is special for this Chamber, a sad, proud memory for Lowell and for Massachusetts, and a moment to reflect on Paul's life and his contributions. It is hard to believe Senator Tsongas has been gone for 10 years. If he were with us today, Paul would be a strong voice full of insight, humor, and wisdom, all in that inimitable style, once modest, but incredibly forceful, the style we came to know and appreciate so much. Lowell, MA will miss Paul Tsongas, America misses him, but we remember him today.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to join my colleague, the junior Senator from Massachusetts, to mark a significant and sad anniversary. Ten years ago today, America lost a great patriot, Massachusetts lost a great advocate, and JOHN KERRY and I lost a great friend when Paul Tsongas passed away after a valiant and courageous fight with cancer.

Paul Tsongas was the epitome of a public servant. From his time in the Peace Corps in both Ethiopia and the West Indies in the 1960s through his spirited campaign for the Presidency in 1992, Paul lived by the words my brother Jack believed so strongly, that each of us can make a difference and all of us should try.

Paul Tsongas tried his best to do so, all his life, and he made a large and continuing difference. To the people of his beloved Lowell, he proved that our great industrial cities can be reborn and renewed, with a creative emphasis on reshaping their great history to meet the needs of our current high tech economy. In the 1970s and 1980s, when America was moving inexorably to the suburbs and so many of our great urban centers were being hollowed out, many of our people found it increasingly difficult to see a bright future for urban areas decimated by the decline of manufacturing.

But today, across the country, a new movement has been born to encourage creative investment in our cities, and

one of the first models for how such efforts can succeed is the vision Paul Tsongas had for Lowell, MA.

F. Scott Fitzgerald may have said there are no second acts in American life, but Paul Tsongas could have responded, "Let him come to Lowell."

Paul served in the House and joined me in the Senate in 1978. He was someone I knew I could always count on to fight hard for the people of Massachusetts, and the Nation. He was tireless, determined, and always well prepared. Sometimes we would disagree on policy matters, here and there, but if you were going to challenge Paul, you had better have your facts straight because he knew what he was talking about.

He also was an outstanding campaigner. The conventional wisdom in politics has always been—at least as long as I can remember—that candidates with difficult to pronounce names have a small additional hurdle.

Paul had a silent "t" at the beginning of his name, and I will never forget how brilliantly he turned that small disadvantage into a major asset in his victorious campaigns for elective office.

He ran hilarious ads that had all these people struggling to pronounce his name, and none of them could do it. But by the end of the campaign, every voter could do the silent "t" and everyone loved the candidate who made fun of himself on TV.

It's a lesson that Paul would carry on throughout his courageous battle against cancer. Everyone faces obstacles—some great and some small. It's how we choose to deal with them that makes us who we are.

Paul Tsongas was an inspiration to all who knew him. The son of a Greek immigrant father and a mother who died of tuberculosis, he demonstrated again and again that through hard work, commitment, and a passion for doing what is right, all things are possible in our America.

He charted a new course for the city he loved. He authored the Alaska Lands Act to protect millions of acres of American wilderness, and he founded, with our former colleague, Warren Rudman, the Concord Coalition, which has become a highly respected force for fiscal responsibility since its creation in the early 1990s.

When the diagnosis of cancer was made, he left the Senate to spend more time with his wonderful wife Niki, his loving sister Thaleia, and his three daughters, Ashley, Katina, and Molly.

After completing his rigorous treatment, he threw his hat in the Presidential ring in the 1992 primaries and his candidacy helped fuel the movement to make Government accountable for its fiscal policies. He left an immense and enduring legacy.

We miss you, Paul. We miss your bravery and your commitment. We miss your friendship and concern, but we know you are resting in peace today after an extraordinary and well-lived life.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. For the information of the Senate, the Chair makes the following announcement:

The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, pursuant to the provisions of 201(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, have appointed Dr. Peter R. Orszag as Director of the Congressional Budget Office effective immediately for the term expiring January 3, 2011.

The Senator from South Dakota is recognized.

Mr. THUNE. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. THUNE and Mr. SALAZAR pertaining to the introduction of S. 331 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. Res. 32 be discharged from the Rules Committee and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Chair. I yield the floor and note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROTECT THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, in the late hours last night, I took to the floor to decry some Senators who wish, if I may put it in this language, to sabotage the

ethics reform legislation with a dangerous and unconstitutional line-item veto proposal. What is happening is little more than political blackmail, and the American people—those people out there who are watching through the lenses above the President's chair, the American people—should be outraged. I have been around here a long time. I have spoken on this subject many times. This so-called line-item veto is an assault on the single most important protection that the American people have against a President, any President, who wants to run roughshod over the liberties of the people prescribed in the Constitution. Today I am talking about the congressional power over the purse. The congressional power that is right here, and over on the other side of the Capitol, the congressional power over the purse.

Weaken the power of the purse and one weakens strong—the word "strong" is too weak—one weakens oversight, for example, on this bloody nightmare of a war in Iraq. Get that? Weaken the power over the public purse and we weaken the oversight over this bloody war in Iraq. That is just one example. One weakens the power of the purse and one weakens the checks on a President who wants to tap into personal telephone calls or pry into bank accounts or tear open the mail. Without congressional power over the purse—money—there is no effective way to stop an out-of-control President who is bent on his way, no matter the price, no matter the repercussion. Make no mistake—hear me, now. The Roman orator would say, "Romans, lend me your ears." Make no mistake, this line-item veto authority would grant tremendous—I say tremendous and dangerous—new power to the President.

There are new Members of this body. Perhaps we ought to have some discussions about the line-item veto. The President would have unchecked authority to imperil congressional power over the purse, a power that the constitutional Framers felt was absolutely vital to reining in an overzealous President.

Eight years ago, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the line-item veto—hear me, Senators; you may be watching your boob tubes. Hear me. Eight years ago, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the line-item veto was unconstitutional. I said at the time that the Supreme Court saved the Congress from its own folly. But now, it seems, memories in this Senate are short and wisdom may be even shorter in supply. Here we are, on the heels of 6 years of assault on personal liberty, 6 years of a do-nothing Congress all too willing to turn its eyes from the real problems of the Nation, 6 years of rubberstamps and rubber spines—here we are, all too ready to jettison the single most important protection of the people's liberties: the power of the purse.

Let's review the record. We have a President—I say this in all due respect.